

as we do at home, for snakes, and leeches, and wild animals infest every valley, forest, or glade that is not under cultivation.

Though Buddhism is almost extinct in India, it has a great stronghold in Ceylon and in Kandy there is a celebrated Buddhist temple. It was a feast day when we visited it and it was crowded with people who had brought offerings of flowers and coppers to the silver image of Buddha and a great silver bell under which is preserved an old tooth of his. The priests with their yellow mantles were going through some strange performances amidst the horrible din of a tum-tum band. Several of the priests showed us numerous tawdry relics and the writings of Buddha preserved on strips of the leaves of the Talipot palm.

On leaving, the priests and the band suspended business and surrounded us with loud demands for "backsheesh." At the silver altar in front of Buddha's image, we had most respectfully placed an offering of a rupee each. We had read parts of the life of Buddha and could respect his lofty teachings, but we could not recognize the claims of these, his degenerate disciples. However, I figured up that their show was worth about two coppers each to the priests and one to the bandmen; and I paid off eight priests and eight bandmen at that rate, much to their disgust. (I may seem a little severe in my remarks, and I must, in justice, say that some of these Bhuddist priests are hard students of his writings.)

A few miles distant from Kandy are the celebrated Botanical Gardens of Paradina, originally established by the Kings of Kandy. It is a beautiful garden of 150 acres, with its groups of trees and palms, useful and ornamental, trees loaded with all kinds of tropical fruits, its plants, shrubs and ferns tastefully distributed over grassy lawns with pleasant paths and drives leading from one group to another. I will not attempt to describe all the wonderful and beautiful shapes of foliage; but among all, I think the giant bamboos are the most wonderful. A stupendous mass of verdure composed of from 80 to 100 stems of bamboo averaging a foot thick and 100 feet in height. Next to these are the golden bamboo, somewhat smaller in size but of a bright golden color.

The manager was very kind, sending a guide to show us about, and on leaving he presented us with a few seeds of fruit trees to try in Honolulu. He had several specimens of palms from our Island, which Mr. Purvis, of Hamakua, had sent him, and he values them very highly. He was very anxious to know if our Government had any botanical gardens with which he might exchange plants or seeds. He had heard of our luxurious climate and wondered that we did not foster our forest wealth more carefully.

But now with all I have seen of the natural and wondrous tropical beauty of Ceylon, nothing, to my notion, compares with the scenery in our own mountains and valleys. Indeed, there are many charming spots that I know of in various parts of the world, where for a brief season life and luxury may be enjoyed, but it is only for a brief season and then there are attending disadvantages. But nowhere that I knew of is there such perfection of climate, scenery, wealth and charm of nature as may be found in our own little Islands, in their bright setting of blue seas and bluer skies. But

"Such is the patriot's boast where'er we roam His first, best country ever is at home."

And yet, perhaps, if countries we compare, And estimate the blessings which they share Though patriots flatter, still shall wisdom find.

An equal portion dealt to all mankind. As different good, by art or nature given, To different nations, makes their blessings even."

FOREIGN NEWS.

The P. M. S. S. City of Sydney, Captain Dearborn, arrived at 2:30 P. M. Sunday. She brings San Francisco and Eastern telegraphic dates to the 11th inst. Below is a summary of news items:—

The latest from Dongola is that a revolt of troops has occurred. El Mahdi's emissaries summoned the garrison to surrender within three days or be massacred. It is also reported that seven British regiments are ordered to be in readiness to march, it is believed, to Khartoum. At Suakim two British gunboats cleared their decks for action, an attack on the town being threatened. Messengers carrying letters to Khartoum report themselves unable to reach that place, and that dense masses of Arabs surround Khartoum. General Gordon has made an attack upon the rebels on the White Nile between the 13th and 15th April. The rebels, who were building huts for shelter, were driven out of their encampment.

The relief expedition to Khartoum starts in July, and will probably number 8,000, including an Indian contingent. It is supposed the main expedition will proceed up the Nile, the other by the Red Sea. Nubar Pasha will arrive in England in June to attend the Egyptian conference. He will only be allowed to be present for consultation.

There is a reported revolution in Malaga.

Hanlan will row Laycock at Sydney on May 22d.

The Oriental Bank of London has failed. There is very little American exchange involved.

A cable special from London of the 10th says: The examination in the Birmingham Police Court of John Daly James Egan and William McDonnell, on charges of treason and felony, was held on the 10th inst. The evidence showed that the police had examined and cross-examined each of the three prisoners privately with the view of extracting damaging evidence from them against one another. The result of the examination was that all the prisoners were fully committed for trial and it is believed that the evidence now in possession of the prosecution will be found sufficient for their conviction. The documentary evidence discovered by the police is very damaging, and combined with papers and explosives found in Egan's garden, is sufficient to make a good case for the Crown, independent of oral testimony. The police yet hope to connect both Daly and Egan with the explosion last February in Victoria station, but it is said that they might consent to use Egan as an informer against Daly in this matter.

The King of the Belgians goes to Paris on the 17th. His visit is associated with French proposals to share in the Congo enterprise.

The German Reichstag passed by 189 to 157, the anti-Social bill to a second reading. The success of the measure surpassed all expectation.

It has just transpired that John Boulton, a prominent Portage-la-Prairie barrister, now in Portland, Or., absconded with \$70,000.

The liabilities of Grant & Ward are estimated at various figures, the highest being \$10,000,000; no estimate of assets can be made.

General Grant's fund of \$250,000 is invested in Toledo & Wabash second mortgage bonds, the interest payable quarterly, guaranteed, principal and interest, by the heirs of the late Governor Morgan. The interest has heretofore been paid annually, on the 1st of May, amounting to \$15,140. Hereafter it will be paid quarterly.

Fred Grant, being interviewed, said: "I am looking for employment. I have nothing to do now." He added that it would depend on whether anything was saved from the wreck whether he went into business for himself.

Mrs. Grant is said to have transferred her property to Vanderbilt. It includes a cottage at Long Branch and

her house at No. 3 East Sixty-sixth street.

The Marine Bank has begun a suit to-day against Ferdinand Ward to recover \$700,000, the amount of the overdrafts paid out by the bank on Ward's account.

It is rumored that the Grand Duke Louis IV. of Hesse is about to contract a morganatic marriage by a formal proposal for the hand of the Princess Beatrice, the Queen's only unmarried daughter. It is also stated, on good authority, that this proposal has been accepted by the Queen and the Princess Beatrice, subject to the passage by Parliament of the bill legalizing marriages between widowers and their deceased wives' sisters.

A dispatch to the *Morning News* from Berlin says: There is no longer any doubt of the marriage of the Grand Duke of Hesse-Darmstadt. It says that the marriage created a great and even painful sensation in Germany and Austria.

Peking advices state that the city is quiet. There is a strong force there. Active defensive preparations are making throughout the provinces, especially in Nankin and at the mouth of the Yang-tse-kiang.

The Empress Anna, widow of the Emperor Ferdinand IV. of Austria, died on the 3rd May at Prague, aged 80 years.

The Oceanic Steamship Co's S. S. Alameda, Captain Morse, arrived at 9 o'clock yesterday morning, 6 days and 18 hours from San Francisco. We clip the following foreign items:

New York, May 13th.—The *Herald* recently sent queries to the various Governors of the States as to their choice for Democratic nominee for President. Governor Adams of Nevada answered: "The nomination of the old ticket of 1876, Tilden and Hendricks, would command the enthusiastic support of every Democrat in this state. Tilden was our decided choice for President in 1876, and again in 1880, and my firm belief, so long as he lives and our people love liberty, and revere free institutions and detest the infamous fraud by which their free and lawful choice was defeated in 1876, they will continue to urge his acceptance of the office. Thurman is the second choice. Cameron of Virginia says: "It would seem from recent developments that a majority of the Democrats of Virginia would prefer the nomination of Tilden, if he would accept. My own choice need not be given, as I shall have no voice in naming the candidate." Berry of Arkansas says: "My individual choice is ex-Senator McDonald of Indiana. There has been no such expression of opinion as could enable me to determine as to the choice of the majority of voters."

Philadelphia, May 14.—The suspension of Charles M. Bayard, stock broker, is announced. Liabilities not heavy.

Cincinnati, Ohio, May 12th.—The special Grand Jury appointed to consider crimes in connection with the riot and the burning of the Court House, made a report to-day to Judge Avery. The report treats at length of the causes leading to the riot, and speaks of the common report that jurors were bribed; of the general complaint that courts permit too many delays, and that good citizens avoided jury duty to the detriment of the fair administration of justice. It also points out the defects in the criminal codes. The report commends highly the conduct of the 14th Regiment at the time of the riot, and praises the bravery of Capt. Desmond, who lost his life in the Court House. Fifty-four indictments were returned, covering twelve different grades of crime, but nothing further will be divulged concerning these until arrests are made. Judge Avery, in receiving the report, made a brief defense of the courts and remarked the public would judge whether the jury had done its work well or not.

The Ceylon Company of London, which owed the Oriental Bank \$2,000,000, has failed.

London, May 14.—There was one small failure upon the Stock Exchange to-day. The panic in New York caused a great deal of excitement on the streets after the Exchange closed. Louisville and Nashville securities have fallen nine points, and other leading American railway stocks have fallen from two to five points.

New York, May 14.—Not in years has there been such intense and general excitement on Wall street as there was this morning, when it became known that Hatch & Foote, and O. M. Bogart & Co., two of the oldest and staunchest firms on the street, had suspended. The excitement reached fever heat, and crowds rushed from all directions to Wall street. The scene there was indescribable. Thousands of brokers and business men, with pallid faces, blocked up the streets and roadways. In front of Hatch & Foote's offices such a throng gathered that the police were called to clear the sidewalks. The galleries in the Stock Exchange were packed with a mass of humanity, five rows deep, while on the floor below brokers clustered around the president's desk and listened to the announcement of failures, which were greeted with wild shouts, and taken up by the crowd in the streets. At the office of L. & S. Wormser, a member of the firm stated they were in no way affected by the general panic. They said the failure of Hatch & Foote would have a terrible effect, and the whole trouble was undoubtedly due to the Marine Bank failure, and the complications arising from Grant & Ward's assignment.

THE METROPOLITAN BANK'S FAILURE

The Metropolitan Bank, Geo. I. Seney, president, has suspended. In the statement issued by the Clearing House, April 24, 1884 (the last issued) the full condition of the Metropolitan Bank was as follows: Capital, \$2,000,000; net profits, \$1,498,600; circulation, \$1,304,900; due banks, \$5,815,000; due depositors, \$3,192,300; unpaid dividend, \$5,100—total, \$14,815,900; certified checks, \$755,200. The following notices are posted on the Metropolitan Bank door: "Check drawn by the Maverick Bank, Boston, on the Metropolitan Bank, may be presented to the First National Bank for payment." All drafts drawn by the First National Bank of Utica, on the Metropolitan Bank, may be presented at the First National Bank for payment."

London, May 13.—The debate upon Sir Michael Hicks Beach's motion of censure was resumed in the Commons this afternoon. Randolph Churchill (Conservative) made a bitter attack upon the Government's policy. He believed that all England would say "aye" to the question whether General Gordon should be rescued. Gladstone would either have to submit to this demand or resign.

Forster, ex-Chief Secretary for Ireland, made a violent speech, attacking the Government. He was frequently interrupted by vociferous cheers on the part of the Conservatives. "In this instance," he said, "I cannot support the Government."

Hartington, Secretary of State for War, made a strong speech in defense of the Government. He said the Government fully recognized the responsibility for General Gordon's safety, and they had no desire to avoid this responsibility. He defended the Government's course in sending troops to Suakim and not to Berber, and pointed out the risk and suffering which would be incurred in dispatching a force to the latter place. He denied that the Government were negotiating to take steps to secure the safety of General Gordon, but said an expedition to crush El Mahdi was beyond the responsibility of the Government.

The House was crowded, Forster's speech made a sensation.

To-night Michael Hicks Beach's censure motion was rejected by a vote of 303 to 275. The Parnellites voted with the minority. The debate previous to the vote was excessively animated. Randolph Churchill compared Gladstone's speech with the declaration of Pontius Pilate publicly washing his hands of the blood of a just man. The opponents of the Government are much delighted at the decreased majority.

London, May 14.—The *Times* says: The small majority in favor of the Government on the censure motion does not represent the predominant and universal conviction of the country. The significant decrease in the support of Gladstone, the *Times* says, conveys a warning that cannot possibly be ignored.

Paris, May 12th.—France refuses to recognize the Iglesias Government in Peru.

The Prince of Wales has arrived from Berlin incognito.

The newspapers are jubilant over the Franco-Chinese treaty. Three regiments have been recalled from Tonquin.

THE FIRST AMERICAN STEEL SHIP.

The manufacturing industries of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland are enjoying a period of unusual prosperity, and from the number of orders already filed, and those expected from prominent wholesalers, retailers and jobbers, it is confidently believed that the excellent situation will be maintained until the close of the year, and, perhaps, may continue through the entire Winter. In some departments of the cotton and woollen interests there is a slight depression, that has been occasioned by over-production, but, as the goods are of such classes as are really marketable, it is believed the dullness will soon disappear. The manufacture of those articles that are supplied to the holiday trade are crowded to the utmost capacity, and, in many instances, the establishments are being run on double time, and will do so until the close of the holiday season. Some of the representative firms have commenced to prepare for the advent of Spring business, and from what can be learned through correspondents, it is safe to say that there is a fine prospect of the opening of a heavy trade early in 1884.

In those great industrial centres of Philadelphia—Kensington, Germantown, Manayunk, Frankford, Richmond and West Philadelphia—the immense mills and factories are running full-handed in all departments, and the long line of goods produced are being shipped in vast quantities. Through Kensington and Richmond, particularly, the briskness is very apparent, and it is with some difficulty that the factories are able to meet the demands made upon them. A number of mammoth buildings have been erected this season. Among the colossal structures put up are the Ontario Mills of Clark & Keen, who are the fabricators of an almost unlimited line of woollen goods. All these new works are occupied by first-class and reputable firms, and there is an almost constant demand for establishments for manufacturing purposes. There has never before in the history of cotton and woollen industries been such a great demand for buildings and rooms for manufacturing purposes. Seeing the prospect of a still further and greater call for establishments, builders and speculators have taken advantage of the situation and contemplate the early erection of suitable buildings.

The demand for steel has attracted considerable attention in all circles of trade, and it is generally believed that an age of steel will soon make its advent. This article has already produced a small revolution in the ship-building industry, and several Pennsylvania ship-builders are not only constructing the hulks of their ships of steel, but all the machinery, even to the boilers, is made of it. The celebrated firm of Lloyd and Lindsay, iron and steel factors, of 328 Walnut street, Philadelphia, has been awarded the contract for the steel ship to be built by the Harlan and Hollingsworth Company of Wilmington, Del., for Mr. Astor of New York city. The contract comprises the steel plating, angles, hull-deck, beams, etc. All the steel will be made by the Siemens-Martin process. This is said to be the first ship ever built in America entirely of steel, including boilers. The plates will be made by the cooperative iron and steel works, at Danville, Pa. A tour of the shipyards has revealed the fact that the outlook for the year 1884 is exceedingly bright and encouraging.

While the production of petroleum in Pennsylvania, New York, Ohio and West Virginia is not so great as it was during the month of October, owing to the depreciation of producing territory, the manufacturing interests are experiencing a good state, and it is probable that the industries connected with the trade were never so crowded as they are at present. Every branch of the business, outside of production, is feeling the benefit of the briskness, and will continue to do so for an indefinite period. The cosmoline, vaseline and carboline ma-